

Tringa melanoleuca (Greater Yellowlegs)

Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: Aves (Birds)

Order: Charadriiformes (Plovers, Sandpipers, And Allies)

Family: Scolopacidae (Curlews, Dowitchers, Godwits, Knots, Phalaropes, Sandpipers, Snipe, Yellowlegs, And Woodcock)

General comments:

Considered stable range wide, considered species of low or moderate concern by US Shorebird Conservation Plan however due to vulnerability to climate change considered priority 3. Listed as "Species of Least Concern" by U. S. Shorebird Conservation Plan Partnership - 2015.

Species Conservation Range Maps for Greater Yellowlegs:

Town Map: [Tringa melanoleuca Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Tringa melanoleuca_HUC12.pdf](#)

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Risk of Extirpation: NA

State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern: NA

Recent Significant Declines: NA

Regional Endemic: NA

High Regional Conservation Priority: NA

High Climate Change Vulnerability:

Vulnerability: 3, Confidence: Medium, Reviewers: Decided in Workshop (W)

Understudied rare taxa: NA

Historical: NA

Culturally Significant: NA

Habitats Assigned to Greater Yellowlegs:

Formation Name	Cliff & Rock
Macrogroup Name	Rocky Coast
Formation Name	Freshwater Marsh
Macrogroup Name	Emergent Marsh
Macrogroup Name	Modified-Managed Marsh
Formation Name	Intertidal
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Gravel Shore
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Mudflat
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Sandy Shore

Stressors Assigned to Greater Yellowlegs:

No Stressors Currently Assigned to Greater Yellowlegs or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Greater Yellowlegs:

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to Greater Yellowlegs or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Conservation Actions Associated with the Shorebirds Guild:

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Conservation Action **Category:** Survey and Monitoring **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** on-going
Identify and map priority feeding and roosting areas including offshore habitats, and implement protection initiatives. Enter data in IFW ETSC database.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge, Industrial and Military Effluents, Housing and Urban Areas, Tourism and Recreational Areas, Commercial and Industrial Areas

Conservation Action **Category:** Species Management **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** new
Place symbolic stake and twine fencing around important beach roosting areas with signage to identify roosting areas.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Recreational Activities, Tourism and Recreational Areas

Conservation Action **Category:** Research **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** on-going
Work with the Maine Department of Marine Resources to conduct research to determine the impact of macroalgae harvest on wintering waterfowl

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources

Conservation Action **Category:** Public Outreach **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** on-going
Provide outreach to pet owners, beachgoers, kayakers, beach managers, and landowners to raise public awareness on shorebirds and on the impacts of disturbance from recreational activities in coastal areas.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Recreational Activities

Conservation Action **Category:** Habitat Management **Biological Priority:** moderate **Type:** new
Use voluntary agreements, conservation easements, conservation tax abatements and incentives to protect important habitats

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Work and Other Activities, Recreational Activities, Housing and Urban Areas, Commercial and Industrial Areas

Conservation Action **Category:** Survey and Monitoring **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** on-going
To determine population status continue monitoring program for SGCN shorebird species at high priority migration sites coastwide. Continue to coordinate with ISS, PRISM, Atlantic Flyway ESMP programs.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action **Category:** Research **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** on-going
Identify prey resources in significant staging areas to determine potential limiting factors and optimal management techniques to promote these resources.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action **Category:** Research **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** on-going
Determine length of stay at stopover areas, site fidelity, local movements and premigration condition to determine if coastal habitats are meeting shorebird requirements for successful migration.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

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Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: moderate	Type: new
Determine limiting factors for SGCN shorebird species on breeding, migratory, or wintering areas.			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
Gain a better understanding of the extent and impacts of algae harvesting on staging and wintering shorebirds. Conduct longterm monitoring of ecosystem-wide impacts of cutting algae to determine potential impacts to shorebird habitats and invertebrate pr			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.